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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
CAMBODIA

IPF:(1992-96) $105 319 000

(CMB/92/008) - Labour-based Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	30 September 1992
Expected duration:	12 months
Proposed executing agency:	ILO
Government implementing agency:	The Supreme National Council of Cambodia
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$1 044 300 Source of funds: IPF
Third-party cost sharing:	$1 970 300 (Government of the Netherlands)
Previous UNDP budget:	$ 282 800
Total UNDP budget:	$3 297 400

Project background

Cambodia is coping with the ongoing resettlement of around 700,000 persons in the form of 380,000 refugees returning from camps in Thailand, 140,000 soldiers who will be demobilized as part of the peace process and 180,000 internally displaced persons. This is creating a potentially serious situation with rapidly growing un- and under-employment. Though no official estimates on employment are available it is widely recognized that lack of employment opportunities is becoming an increasingly significant problem and under- or un-employment is acute in the non-agricultural season. The shortage of land for the refugees returning from Thailand also calls for the creation of non-farm employment opportunities. While it is recognized that this situation affects all Cambodians, it is also recognized that some groups in particular need priority attention such as returning refugees, internally displaced persons and demobilized soldiers.

The above-mentioned project is one of the three components of the Employment Generation Programme (EGP) designed by UNDP/ILO as an emergency operation to address non-agricultural employment activities and training requirements. The two other components are the Vocational Training project (under finalization in Phnom Penh) and the Small Enterprise and Informal Sector Promotion project (CMB/92/010). The EGP is closely linked to the Cambodia Resettlement and Reintegration Programme (CARERE) which is being designed as an integrated community-based programme aimed at strengthening the social services, infrastructure and administrative capacity in the four North Western Provinces of Bantey Meanchey, Siem Reap, Battambang and Pursat which are the destinations for the refugees, internally displaced persons and demobilized soldiers.

To provide direct employment to a large number of people including demobilized soldiers, improve conditions for agriculture and access to markets, health, education and

[1] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

social welfare services for rural population, the Government requested UNDP assistance under the present approval.

Description of project

The development objective of the project is to contribute to the long-term economic development of Cambodia through the establishment of a sustainable labour-based infrastructure, development and maintenance capacity.

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) design and implement an effective labour-based infrastructure rehabilitation programme providing employment for up to 4,000 persons particularly aimed at socially and economically disadvantaged groups; and (b) develop and prepare a strategy for longer-term sustainability of rural roads and irrigation projects nation-wide using labour-based technology.

Project activities will include: (a) rehabilitating 150 km. of secondary and tertiary roads and six irrigation/waterstorage schemes in Battambang and Siem Reap, using 350,000 working days; (b) performing essential clean-up work at the historic archaeological site of Angkor, using 50,000 working days; (c) training 20 engineers, 30 technicians and 60 supervisors in the planning, organisation and implementation of labour-based road and irrigation works; (d) enabling four road engineers and four irrigation engineers to visit labour-based projects in Thailand and Nepal to quickly familiarize themselves with an operational programme in the region; (e) conducting group training to introduce skilled and unskilled workers to special public works programme and to introduce awareness on the International Labour Standards; (f) assessing the needs for regular maintenance of rural roads, irrigation projects and the potential role of labour-based technology, and the capacity of the provincial and central authorities to maintain these infrastructures; (g) reviewing the possibilities of local users groups self-funding for the recurrent maintenance of rural roads and irrigation projects; and (h) recommending whether labour-based projects for new constructions or for rehabilitation and maintenance works are appropriate for future programmes.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 12 work-months for a project manager in charge of the overall coordination of the programme, 12 work-months of a senior road engineer, 12 work-months of a senior irrigation engineer, 24 work-months for two UNVs or NGO irrigation engineers, 24 work-months for two UNV or NGO roads engineers, 12 work-months for technical and training consultancies; 288 work-months for administrative support personnel; 12 work-months for national professionals short-term consultancies; eight fellowships, group and in-service training; and miscellaneous costs.

The Government of the Netherlands will provide expendable and non-expendable equipment needed for the actual rehabilitation works, surveying and testing equipment, the labour costs, the field allowances for counterpart personnel, the mining clearance activities, and operation and maintenance.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 565 500
Subcontract	333 400
Training	209 100
Equipment	862 600
Miscellaneous	44 000
Total	3 014 600

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